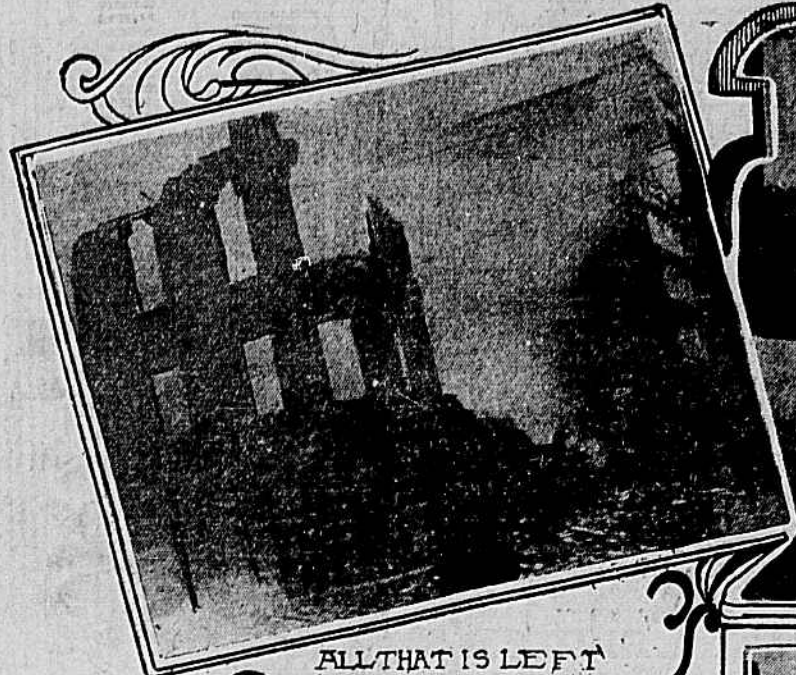


## SCENES OF DESTRUCTION WROUGHT BY TWO FIRES IN RICHMOND



ALL THAT IS LEFT



RUINS OF THE WILLIAMS BUILDING



B.F. JOHNSON BUILDING



CROWD VIEWING THE RUINS IN AFTERNOON

### PRESIDENT ON SHIP SUBSIDY

Says the Government Must Foster Trade With South America.

### STEAMSHIP LINES DO MISSIONARY WORK

Subsidy Will Encourage Ship-yards, Which Are Necessary for National Defense. Must Secure Our Share of Trade With Orient.

WASHINGTON, D. C., January 23.—President Roosevelt's message in support of ship subsidy was received and read by both houses of Congress to-day.

After the reading in the House the message was referred to the Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries, from which a mail subsidy measure has just been reported.

In the Senate the message was sent to the Committee on Commerce. The President calls attention to the great desirability of enactment of legislation to help American shipping and American trade by encouraging the building and running of lines of large and swift steamers to South America and the Orient.

"The urgent need of our country's making an effort to do something like its share of its own carrying trade on the ocean has been called to his attention," the President says, "in striking fashion, by the experiences of Secretary Root on his recent South American tour. State aid to steamship lines, the President says, is as much a part of the commercial system of to-day as State employment of consuls to promote business." The President discusses the bill now before the committee, and says:

"It would surely be creditable for us to surrender to our commercial rivals the great commerce of the Orient, the great commerce we should have with South America and even our own communication with Hawaii and the Philippines."

"The urgent need of our country's making an effort to do something like its share of its own carrying trade on the ocean," the President says, "has been called to our attention in striking fashion by the experience of Secretary Root on his recent South American tour."

The facts set forth by Mr. Root are striking, and they cannot but arrest the attention of our people. The great continent to the south of us, which should be knit to us by the closest commercial ties, is hardly in direct commercial communication with us at all, its commercial relations being almost exclusively with Europe. Between all the principal South American ports and Europe lines of swift and commodious steamers, subsidized by their home governments, ply regularly. There is no line of steamers between these ports and the United States.

In consequence our shipping in South America ports is almost a negligible quantity. For instance, in the year ending June 30, 1906, there entered the port of Rio Janeiro over 3,000 steamers and sailing vessels from Europe, but from the United States no steamers and only seven sailing vessels, two of which were in distress.

"One prime reason for this state of things is the fact that those who now do business on that sea do business in a world not of natural competition, but of subsidized competition. State aid to steamship lines is as much a part of the commercial system of to-day as State employment of consuls to promote business. Our commercial competitors in Europe pay in the aggregate some \$25,000,000 a year to their steamship lines, Great Britain paying nearly \$7,000,000, Japan pays between \$3,000,000 and \$4,000,000. By the proposed legislation the United States will still pay relatively less than any one of our competitors pays. Three years ago the Trans-Atlantic Congress formally set forth as axiomatic the statement that every ship is a missionary of trade; that steamship lines work for their own country just as railroad lines work for their territorial points, and that it is as absurd for the United States to depend upon foreign ships to distribute its products as it would be for a department store to depend upon wagons of a competing

(Continued on Eighth Page.)

### HARRY K. THAW DIRECTS CASE

Sets With His Counsel and Advises In Selecting Jurymen.

### INSANITY WILL NOT BE THE PLEA

Thaw Is Sane Now—He Might Have Been "Emotionally Insane" When He Killed White—Unwritten Law to Play Its Part

### Striking Incidents in the Career of Harry Kendall Thaw.

Ran away from college when rebuked for a lack of ambition. Was inveterate cigarette smoker. Gave famous beauty dinner in Paris that cost him \$50,000. Disinherited by father on account of his wild ways.

Married Florence Evelyn Nesbit and kept the matter in secret. Refused shelter in New York hotel because he would not admit marriage.

Sinister White, who had been a friend of Miss Nesbit, excited the rage of Thaw. On June 25, 1906, the young man shot and killed the architect on roof of Madison Square Garden.

NEW YORK, January 23.—The curtain was rung up to-day for another act in the tragedy of real life, known as the Thaw-White case. The setting was not the gay all-night restaurants of the Tenderloin, where the principal actors in the tragedy once were familiar figures. It was not the roof garden, crowded with the summer travelers, who on a fateful night clinked glasses in rhythm to the music of the orchestra, and listened laughingly to merry singers, and then were hushed into a silence of horror as three pistol shots cracked, and a noted architect lay dead at the little round table where he had been chatting with friends.

The story of the play was brought down to the grim court-room scene where twelve men are to sit and render a judgment which may mean either the taking of another life, this time by the State, or a determination that Harry Thaw was justified in the claim that he shot the man "who had ruined his wife." There may be a third decision; that Thaw was insane at the time he committed the crime—"Emotional Insanity." It was called to-day—but there will be no opportunity to say that Thaw is now insane.

The long-awaited trial began this morning shortly before 10:30 o'clock, and when an adjournment for the day had been taken about 5 P. M., there were two jurors in the box. The third juror had been accepted and sworn, but he was excused in the closing moments of the day's session, the reason for the action being of a private nature, and not made public.

Only Nineteen Examined. Nineteen of the two hundred talesmen who were summoned were examined before the day closed. Nearly every one seemed anxious to serve, and a small percentage were excused for cause. The challenges in nearly every instance were of a peremptory character, and about evenly divided between the prosecution and the defense.

The examination of the first talesman called from the large panel was followed with the keenest interest, as it was thought the line of questioning by the attorneys for Thaw would develop the character of the defense they are to set up.

There was disappointment in this respect. The defendant's counsel seemed perfectly willing to accept any proposed juror who satisfactorily answered the questions put by District Attorney Jerome, who personally conducted the examinations. The defense peremptorily challenged two talesmen, however, who gave their business as architects.

Mr. Jerome asked each talesman in

(Continued on Second Page.)

### WILL REINSTATE THIRD CLASSMEN

Board of Visitors of V. M. I. Will Not Expel, But Will Punish Severely.

### BOYS AWAIT THEIR FATE

Will Not Know Until This Afternoon What Awaits Them. New Building at Once.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)

LEXINGTON, VA., January 23.—The board of visitors of the Virginia Military Institute passed an order this afternoon reinstating the third class who early in January put off fireworks from the roof of Smith's Hall in violation of regulations. The boys will be heavily penalized. Official notification of the action of the board has not been made public, but will be announced probably tomorrow evening at parade. Gratification is expressed here that the boys will not be compelled to leave the institute.

The board ordered the erection of the new library building, work to begin at once, so that the books can be moved into the new building during vacation. In order to begin the work on remodeling the old library for cadet barracks, Contract for the new building has been let to Sneed & Co., of Lynchburg. Work on the new light and power building is now in progress.

### PAYS HUSBAND'S FINE; SECURES HIS RELEASE

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)

FREDERICKSBURG, VA., January 23.—C. J. Martens, of this city, who was married in Washington Saturday, arrested here Monday for larceny of clothing from H. Falk, his employer, and sent to jail for ninety days in default of payment, was this evening released from jail upon the payment of fine by his bride.

### JAMES RIVER GETS \$175,000

Rivers and Harbors Bill Carries Record Amount for Inland Waterways.

### TOTAL AMOUNT \$83,000,000

Virginia and North Carolina Secure Large Amounts for Improvements.

WASHINGTON, D. C., January 23.—The rivers and harbors bill was favorably reported by the Senate committee to-day, and made a new record in the appropriations for inland waterways. The bill carried more than \$83,000,000, to be expended throughout the country.

The bill is a record-breaker in size, exceeding by many millions the amount allowed for rivers and harbors improvements in any Congress. Among the items in the bill are:

Virginia—Norfolk Harbor and its approaches, \$37,525; channel from deep water in Hampton Roads to Norfolk, \$32,000 cash and continuing \$50,000; Hampton Roads, \$12,500; Cape Charles City Harbor, \$25,000; York, Mattaponi and Pamunkey Rivers and Occoquan and Carter's Creeks, \$49,000; Rappahannock River, \$77,729 cash and \$30,000 continuing; James River, \$175,000.

North Carolina—Beaufort, \$22,000; Pamlico and Tar Rivers, \$11,550; Neuse and Trent Rivers, \$30,000; waterway between Fear River at and below Wilmington, \$165,000 cash and \$25,000 continuing.

South Carolina—Winyah Bay, \$130,000; inland waterways between Charleston Harbor, S. C., and opposite McElligonsville, \$53,250; Charleston, \$25,000; Waccamaw River, N. C., and S. C., and Little Pee Dee River, S. C., \$20,000; Santee, Wateree and Congaree Rivers and Estherville-Minim Creek Canal, \$150,000.

### BLUES BEAR WELL THEIR DISTRESS

Stout-Hearted Young Men, Stripped of All, Set Faces to the Front.

### CITIZENS RALLY TO THEIR AID

Work of Rehabilitation Begun. Sympathetic Action by Civic and Military Organizations.

Looking through the gloom and darkness following the destruction by yesterday morning's fire of all their splendid uniforms and equipment, together with relics of sentimental value which can never be replaced, the gallant officers and men composing the Richmond Light Infantry Blues, are stout-hearted and manly in their distress, and already the great task of rehabilitation has been commenced with a will.

With every vestige of property swept away within the space of a few hours, and with neither home, nor arms nor precious relics left, the light is already dawning, and the popular and splendid citizen-soldier battalion, which has provoked applause at the hands of so many enthusiastic thousands, and which is the pride of Richmond and the State, will be re-equipped and rejuvenated in as little time as it will require to do the necessary work. Movements are already on foot which will bring forth abundant fruit, and the men leading them have never known how to fail in important undertakings.

A strong citizens' committee was organized yesterday to secure subscriptions for assisting in recuperating the losses, while the members from the destroying fire were yet smoldering, and the prediction was freely made that the task would be speedily accomplished.

Offer Accepted. The Chamber of Commerce came at once to the rescue and offered the use of its assembly room for meeting purposes, and the first meeting will be held to-morrow night. Captain Myers tendered the use of the Howitzers, and offered any other assistance in his power. Equally as prompt and sympathetic was Major C. Gray Bessieux, who offered the Seventeenth Regiment Armory for similar purposes.

The meeting to-morrow night will determine what will be done, where other meetings will be and what armory will be temporarily used.

Practically all the pictures and relics of the battalion were swept away. Among these latter were a silver bowl presented by the city of Lynchburg, and a flag presented by the Philadelphia Grays in 1859, the latter costing about \$900.

The records and a few pictures were the only things that were saved, and they were not in the armory, who offered the thousands of recruits were expressed yesterday and last night concerning the loss sustained by the Blues, and it is the general belief that those things which

(Continued on Third Page.)

## TWO GREAT FIRES CAUSED LOSS OF ABOUT \$200,000

Williams Building, Ninth and Cary Streets, and Johnson Building, at Eleventh, Are Totally Destroyed.

### FIREMEN'S FINE WORK HELD FLAMES WITHIN BUILDING

B. F. Johnson Publishing Company, Surbrug Tobacco Company, Southern Paper Company, Richmond L. I. Blues Battalion and Express Company Burned Out—Losses In Most Cases Almost Covered By Insurance—The Military Command Lost Everything In the Fire.

APPROXIMATE STATEMENT OF LOSSES AND INSURANCE.		
	Loss.	Insurance.
Williams building, Ninth and Cary .....	\$22,000	\$10,000
Surbrug Tobacco Company .....	40,000	37,500
Southern and Adams Express .....	10,000	—
Richmond Light Infantry Blues .....	10,000	3,000
U. S. government, arms and equipment .....	7,500	—
Snyder building, Eleventh and Cary .....	14,000	16,000
B. F. Johnson Company .....	60,000	63,000
Southern Paper Company (estimated) .....	15,000	16,000
Southern Laundry building (estimated) .....	4,000	—
Laundry fixtures and contents .....	3,000	—
W. J. Whitehurst's dry-kiln and lumber .....	1,800	—
Bedford Paper and Pulp Co. (estimated) .....	1,000	1,000
	\$188,300	\$146,500

By an unfortunate coincidence, two serious fires occurred in this city early yesterday morning, the combined losses of which will aggregate about \$200,000. If anything, the actual loss by destruction of property will fall below that figure, but from the most accurate information attainable it will in no case exceed it. A third fire, possibly due to the first, caused a trivial loss of \$1,500 to \$1,800, which is embraced in the figures already given. The total insurance on properties destroyed or damaged in the two fires is approximately \$150,000.

All the firms and individuals burned out in the two buildings have already secured or will to-day secure other quarters and resume business. In fact, there has been little or no suspension of business by any firm, and that only long enough to secure and establish temporary quarters. The Southern Paper Company was looking for suitable quarters at the close of business, and the steam laundry whose plant was crushed is not yet located. The Richmond Blues Battalion is worse off than all others, being not only without uniforms or equipment, but without a roof to cover them. The provision of adequate permanent quarters for the command is now a necessity which the city must face.

### WILLIAMS BUILDING COMPLETE WRECK.

The fire which had just burned the Williams building, a four-story brick structure, at the northwest corner of Ninth and Cary Streets, to the ground when The Times-Dispatch went to press yesterday, resulting in its complete destruction, together with its contents, owned by several firms or organizations, was followed at 7 o'clock by another serious fire on Cary Street, two blocks east of the earlier one, but by brilliant work the firemen succeeded in not only confining it to the building, but in extinguishing the flames before the building was destroyed.

It was the plant of the Southern Paper Company and the B. F. Johnson Publishing Company, an old substantially-built four-story brick structure, formerly occupied as a foundry and later as a wholesale notion house. The building was gutted, while not wholly burned, its walls being intact, but the roof destroyed and interior badly damaged, and it is estimated that it can be reconstructed within ninety days.

### FINE WORK BY FIREMEN.

In the first fire the flames were confined to the building in which they originated, despite most unfavorable condition for fire-fighting. A single building of interior wood construction was destroyed. A million dollars or more of valuable property adjoining was unharmed. It is but simple justice to commend in the highest terms the intelligent, brave and peculiarly trying work of the fire department. In a very low temperature, which converted the falling spray to ice as it fell and made one's footing treacherous, and with a biting wind which benumbed the firemen and at the same time fanned the flames, the men poured water into the furiously burning structure and confined the fire.

### IN A DANGEROUS LOCALITY.

Adjoining the burning building on every hand were large structures, some of them inflammable. Fortunately the wind blew toward the river, driving the heat whither it could do least damage, or a conflagration would have almost inevitably resulted. Adjoining the building on Ninth Street was the four-story brick building of the G. & A. Bargain Company, plumbers' supplies. Just north of that is the substantial steel constructed building of the Chamber of Commerce. Across Ninth Street is the nine-story steel construction office building of the Mutual Assurance Society. Directly across Ninth Street from the fire was the four-story brick carriage manufactory and repository of R. H. Boshers' Sons, while across Cary Street, at the corner of Ninth, is Fagan's junk store, and westward from Ninth to Eighth the four-story brick structures occupied by Reuben Burton, galvanizing iron; the Acme Milling Company and Hunter B. Frischkorn, machinery

(Continued on Third Page.)

**In Richmond in 1906**

there was manufactured \$77,432,692 worth of goods—\$35,000,000 more than in 1895.

An enormous increase in ten years.

If the ratio of the increase in 1906 over 1905, which was \$9,000,000, continues for five years more, we will be manufacturing \$125,000,000 worth.

It's coming. If you want to reach those who direct, make and consume these goods, you must use

**THE TIMES-DISPATCH.**

It is Supreme in Virginia.